

THE  
"OVERLAND CHINA MAIL"  
PUBLISHED EVERY  
MAIL DAY.  
(Contains the Week's News  
of Hongkong and the  
Far East.)  
Price (including Postage) to any  
part of the world, \$13.  
per annum.

# The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1845

ADVERTISING  
RATES OF THE "CHINA MAIL"  
and "OVERLAND CHINA MAIL"  
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Pacific Ocean, & Co.  
Atlantic Ocean, & Co.  
Indian Archipelago, & Co.  
Chinese Archipelago, & Co.  
Macao, & Co.  
Hankow, & Co.  
Tientsin, & Co.  
Peking, & Co.  
Beijing, & Co.  
Nanking, & Co.  
Shanghai, & Co.  
Hongkong, & Co.  
Canton, & Co.

No. 16,685.

十一月一十年六十百九千壹

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1916.

民國五年十一月一日

PRICE, 85.00 Per Month

## THORNES OLD VAT No. 4. SCOTCH WHISKY.

SOLE AGENTS:  
A. S. WATSON & Co. Ltd.  
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,  
HONGKONG  
Tel. 318.

### HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

RAILWAY, CENTRAL STATION, 5.30 P.M.  
Thursday, Nov. 2nd.—Nos. 3 and 4  
Companies (except Recruits) as Central  
Reserve of No. 4 Company under Com-  
pany Sergeant-Major.  
Friday, Nov. 3rd.—No. 2 Company  
under Sergeant-Major Roylance. Re-  
cruits of No. 2 Platoon under Company  
Sergeant-Major.  
SATURDAY, NOV. 4TH.  
The Band will play at the City Hall  
at 8.30 p.m.  
JOINED.  
No. 1 Company, No. 2 Section.—H. O.  
Bess.  
No. 2 Company, No. 6 Section.—L.  
Lopes.  
No. 2 Company, No. 5 Section.—J. D.  
Marques.  
(Sgd.) J. W. FRANKS,  
A.S.P. (S.).

### NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN, NON ASIATIC or  
INDIAN, desiring to leave the  
Colonies should apply in writing for per-  
mission to do so to the Captain-Super-  
intendent of Police, at least 48 hours  
before the intended hour of departure,  
giving name, nationality, age, sex, height  
and occupation of the applicant, and  
stating the name of the steamer or other  
vessel or the hour of the train by which  
the applicant wishes to leave. Applicants  
should apply in person for their passes at  
the Central Police Station between the  
hours of 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to  
4 p.m. daily.

## PATELL & CO. Importers-Exporters AND Commission Agents HONGKONG.

### Branches:—

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.  
YOKOHAMA, JAPAN.  
BOMBAY, INDIA.

### China:—

HANKOW,  
SHANGHAI,  
CANTON.

### AGENTS.

LONDON.—WILLIAM BLAIR, 45 Great  
Russell Street, W.C.1, E. 11 &  
12 (Clement's Lane, Lombard Street,  
E.C.3, T. B. BROWN & Co., Ltd.,  
163 Queen's Road, Victoria & Co.,  
CLARK, SON & PLATT, 88 Grace-  
church St. E.C.4, G. STREET & CO., LTD.,  
30 Cornhill, London & Co., 15 St.  
Bride St., E.C.4, ROBERT WATSON, 159  
Fleet St., W.C.2, MITCHELL & CO., 59  
Fleet St., W.C.2, W. J. KETTER & Co., 3  
Whitefriars St., E.C.4, MATHES & Co., 10,  
11, 12, New Bridge St., E.C.4.  
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SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports  
generally.—BAY & BLACK, San Fran-  
cisco.  
HONGKONG.—BROWN & Co.  
AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW  
ZEALAND.—GORDON & GORDON, Inter-  
mediate and Sydney.  
OZELON.—W. M. GUNTER & Co., The  
Australasian Co., Melbourne.  
SINGAPORE, S. RAJES, & Co.—KING  
& WATSON, Ltd., Singapore.  
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—A. S. WAT-  
SON & Co., Manila.  
SHANGHAI.—Messrs. KAY & WATSON,  
120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134,  
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3380, 3382, 3384,

## INTIMATIONS

The list will be closed on or before 15th November, 1916.

### HONGKONG GOVERNMENT SIX PER CENT. WAR LOAN OF 1916.

ISSUE OF \$3,000,000 HONGKONG CURRENCY SIX PER CENT. BONDS to Bearer authorized by the War Loan Ordinance 1916.

The Proceeds of the Loan will be handed over to the Imperial Government as a War Contribution from the Colony of Hongkong.

The Principal and Interest of this Loan are guaranteed by the Government of Hongkong and are secured by the Revenues of the Colony.

Price of Issue—\$100 Per Cent.

Interest payable—1st May and 1st November.

First Coupon for full six months interest payable—1st May 1917.

Principal repayable at par on—1st November 1924, or, at the option of the Government of Hongkong, principal may be wholly or partially repaid at any time after fifth year by drawings of Bonds.

THE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, Hongkong, are instructed by the Government of Hongkong to invite subscriptions for the above Loan.

The Bonds will be issued in denominations of \$100, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000, and \$10,000, payable to Bearer with half yearly interest coupons attached payable 1st May and 1st November, at the office of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Hongkong.

The first coupon will be attached to Scrip Certificates which will be exchanged later for definitive Bonds.

This loan will be free from any local taxation as regards both principal and interest.

Applications will be received by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Hongkong, from whom the necessary printed forms can be obtained. Such applications must be for \$100 or any multiple thereof and be accompanied by a deposit of 25% of the amount applied for.

Applications may be accepted in whole or in part, and in the event of partial allotment the surplus amount paid as deposit will be appropriated towards the payment of instalments due on allotment. The Government has the right to refuse any application.

Payment will be required as follows:  
25 per cent. on application  
25 " " allotment (4th Dec. 1916).  
25 " " 29th December, 1916.  
25 " " 17th January, 1917.

In case of default in the payment of any instalment at its due date, the deposit and instalments previously paid will be liable to forfeiture.

Scrip Certificates, with coupon attached for the first half year's interest due on 1st May 1917, will be issued after payment of the instalment due on allotment, and such certificates, when fully paid, will be exchangeable for Bonds when received. Notice will be given when Bonds are ready for delivery.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.  
Hongkong, 24th October, 1916. [1178]

### SILIMPON (SEBATTIE) COAL.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the COVIE HARBOUR COAL CO., LTD., are prepared to quote prices for best quality SILIMPON COAL (timbered into Banks at SEBATTIE or SANDAKAN (British North Borneo)).

SILIMPON COAL compares favourably with the better grades of Japanese Coal and gives good results on a very moderate consumption.

Steamers calling at SEBATTIE or SANDAKAN exclusively for SILIMPON COAL (either cargo or Bankers) are exempt from payment of all Port charges.

At Sebatik Steamers are berthed alongside the Company's wharf where there is a minimum depth of 27 to 28 feet at low water Spring Tides.

Charter of Sibir Bay (Sebatik Harbour). Prices and all other information concerning the Port can be had on application to the Agents.

BRADLEY & CO., LTD., Agents, Covie Harbour Coal Company, Limited.  
Hongkong, Dec. 2, 1915. 1057

TANG ZUK DENTIST, successor to the late SIEN TING.  
14, D'ARQUE STREET.

TERMS VERY MODERATE.  
Consultation free.

## INTIMATIONS

CHINA EXPORT-IMPORT AND BANK COMPAGNIE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any persons or firms having claims against the Hongkong Branch of the CHINA EXPORT-IMPORT AND BANK COMPAGNIE are required to file same with the Liquidators on or before 31st October, 1916, after which date no claim will be recognized.

BRADLEY & Co., Ltd.  
Liquidators.  
Hongkong, Oct. 2, 1916. 1088

## WANTED.

AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY for the Marine Engineers' Guild in Hongkong. An Engineer preferred.  
Reply to—  
17, Nanking Road, Shanghai.  
Hongkong, Oct. 23, 1915. 1180

## MINISTERING CHILDREN'S LEAGUE

## SALE OF WORK

LOCAL CHARITIES FOR CHILDREN and CHILDREN OF THE EMPIRE FUND for disabled and blind SOLDIERS and SAILORS and the BELGIAN ORPHANS IN BELGIUM.

To be held in the grounds at Government House, by kind permission of His Excellency the Governor on SATURDAY, 11th NOVEMBER from 2 to 6 P.M.

Entrances only at the Garden Gate in Upper Albert Road.

PRICES OF ADMISSION ADULTS 30 Cts. CHILDREN 10 Cts.

All members and associates wearing M.C.L. Badges free.

Come to see the "SWANKS" and "TABLEAUX", 5.30 P.M. Tickets \$1.00.

Toys and Fancy Articles, Toys, Sweets, Tea, Lucky Wheel, Tulip Garden.

MAVORLE DANCE.

NO CHITS TAKEN.

Hongkong, Oct. 24, 1916. 1183



**KEATING'S  
FLOZENGES**  
Cure the Worst Cough

## REGAL RECORDS

BY  
**BILLY WILLIAMS**  
(COMEDIAN).

6000 "When Father Paped the Parlour  
Don't Go Out With Him To-night"

6005 "Rosetta  
The Man That Buried Flanagan"

6006 "Where The Crowd Goes  
Let's Have a Song on  
The Gramophone"

6007 "I Keep on Tiddling Along  
(Cohen)"

6008 "Let's All Go Mad  
Take Me Where There Are  
No Eyes Aout"

6009 "Take Me Where There Are  
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## Hughes & Hough

AUCTIONEERS TO THE GOVERNMENT.

General Auctioneers  
Hare, Coal and General Produce  
Brokers and Commission  
Agents.

### PROPRIETORS

"To-Kwa-Wan" Coal Storage.

Codes used:

Bentley's

A. B. C. 4th & 5th Editions.

A. 1 Telegraphic Code.

Telegraphic Address

"MERION" HONGKONG.

### PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction,

on

THURSDAY,

the 2nd November, 1916, at 2.45 p.m.,  
at "Ravenshill" corner of Littleton  
and Park Roads, (Top of  
Breezy Path).

VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD  
FURNITURE,  
As follows:

American Oak Extension Dining Table  
and Chairs, China Cupboard, Bookcase,  
Desk, etc., Screens, Box Ottoman, and  
Arm-chairs, Long Blackwood Side  
Table, Porcelain Umbrella Stand, Electric  
Reading Lamp, Fan and Iron, Gramo-  
phone and Records, Iron Bedsteads,  
Wardrobes, etc., Pongee Silk Curtains,  
Pantry and Bath Room—Utensils, Tennis  
Net Poles and Marker (nearly new).  
On view day of Sale.  
Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Oct. 17, 1916. 1178

### PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction,

on

FRIDAY,

the 3rd November, 1916, commencing  
at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8,  
Des Vaux Road, Corner  
of Ice House Street.

HOUSEHOLD AND OFFICE  
FURNITURE, etc.,  
Comprising:

Carpets (new), Large Sideboard (Lane,  
Crawford make), Dinner Wagon,  
Dining Tables and Chairs, a Chesterfield  
Sofa, Arm-chairs, etc., Wardrobes and  
Toilet Tables, Double and Single Brass-  
mounted Bedsteads, etc., Miscellaneous  
Furniture, several lots of Blackwood  
Ware, Piano, a few lots of Porcelains,  
etc., Pantry, Bath Room and Kitchen  
Utensils, etc., Large Blackwood Screen,  
several good Cabinets, Teapots, Office  
Furniture, etc.

"Call's" Motors, Typewriters, Clari-  
nettes, Mandoline, etc., and Sundry Brass  
Ware.  
(Full Particulars from Catalogue).  
Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Oct. 27, 1916. 1187

### PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction,

on

SATURDAY,

the 4th November, 1916, at 10.30 a.m.,  
at their Sales Rooms, No. 8,  
Des Vaux Road, Corner of  
Ice House Street.

SEVERAL CAGES PROVISIONS,  
Comprising:

Assorted Jams,  
Oxford Sausages,  
Cambridge Sausages,  
Panyan Sausages,  
Panyan Pickles,  
Suffolk Pickles,  
etc., etc.  
The above are new Goods and will be  
in small lots.  
Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Oct. 28, 1916. 1189

### PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction,

on

AN EARLY DATE.

The following LIGHTHOUSE GEAR

One occulting apparatus, complete.  
Circular white lamps.  
Spare burners.  
Cylinders and wicks.  
Incandescent Petrol Lamps, and  
appurtenances.

A quantity of gear pertaining to  
Mooring Buoy.

A number of "Lighthouse" wheels and  
Axles.

Further particulars may be obtained  
from the undersigned.  
Terms:—as usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Nov. 24, 1916. 1194

## AUCTIONS.

### PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction,

on

THURSDAY,

the 9th November, 1916, at 10.30 a.m.,  
at their Sales Rooms, No. 8,  
Des Vaux Road, Corner of  
Ice House Street.

Ex. SS. "KAMO MARU"

Just Arrived.

A consignment of Lace Curtains,  
Bedspread, Sheets, Pillow Cases, Cushion  
Covers, Serviettes, Dusters, Towels, Bath  
Mats, etc., etc.

On view from Wednesday.

Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Oct. 31, 1916. 1193

### FOR SALE

### FOR SALE

AS A GOING CONCERN.

A FIRST CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL

containing:

42 Bed Rooms,  
Bath Rooms,  
Reception Room,  
Private Dining Room, Self contained  
suites of apartments with Bath Rooms  
attached. Dining Room with accom-  
modation for 100 persons. Store Rooms,  
Library, Servants' quarters, etc., etc.  
Hot and cold water laid on throughout.  
Approximate value of Furniture, etc.  
about \$30,000.

A large stock of extra Linen and  
Crochery all new and high class recently  
imported from England.  
Electric light throughout.  
The Hotel is centrally located being  
only a few minutes from the leading  
Banks, Post Office, Ferry, etc.  
To be sold as a going concern with  
good will.

Further particulars may be obtained  
from the Undersigned.

HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Oct. 19, 1916. 11061



### JAPANESE MAKERS.

Every kind of Footwear

MADE

TO

ORDER



CHERRY & CO.

FEDDER STREET,  
Opposite Hongkong Hotel

Telephone No. 491.  
Hongkong, March 23, 1914.

### "CHINA MAIL"

### PUBLICATIONS

Obtainable at the "CHINA MAIL"

Office, 5 Wyndham Street, Hong-  
kong.

HISTORY OF UNION CHURCH  
(1892-1905) 50

HONGKONG'S MUSICAL  
HISTORY 50

NOTES ON WILD LIFE IN  
HONGKONG AND SOUTH  
CHINA (by Rev. O. A.  
Bunbury, M.A.) 50

Part I—Mammals and Birds 50

Part II—Reptiles, Amphibians and  
Fishes 50

THE MISSIONS STRANGERS  
(History of the Eastern  
Churches) 100

CHINESE SCHOOL BOOK  
"Sam Tai Kung" translated  
by H. J. (M.A.) 50

SIR ROBERT HARRIS LAND  
TAX (by Rev. O. A.  
Bunbury, M.A.) 50

WASHINGTON BOOKS (the new) 50

## THE COLONIAL BUDGET.

### THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY ON THE DEBATE.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR, replying on  
the debate on the Budget in the  
Legislative Council yesterday said:—  
I am obliged to hon. members for  
bringing to my notice the unsatis-  
factory manner in which searching  
on the wharves are carried out. That  
is a matter on which formerly, in  
connection with opium, we had a  
little trouble and it will receive our  
earnest attention. Of course, the  
removing of the Permit Office and  
the Pass Office to the only available  
Government building which the  
Government has in the neighbour-  
hood of the centre of the town is a  
matter of expense. If we take a  
room there we lose the rent of it. I  
am not quite sure whether the Per-  
mit Office can conveniently be dis-  
sociated from the superintendence of  
Mr. Hutchinson, but I will enquire  
into the matter, and if anything can  
be done I will do it. I would not  
have thought that the Central Police  
Station, where the Pass Office is  
situated, was so far out of the way  
as to make it inpossible, though I  
know the people of Hongkong like  
to have everything brought to their  
very doors, and we will try and assist  
them there if we possibly can. It  
has been suggested that a trained  
cadet might be available in conduct-  
ing translations in the Supreme  
Court. That has been done in the  
past, and something might be done  
on the same lines in the future. My  
sympathies are with hon. members,  
and especially with the Chinese mem-  
bers, in their criticism of the teach-  
ing of English to Chinese boys. I  
think the hon. member who repre-  
sents the Chinese touched on the spot  
pretty well, and hit the right nail  
on the head when he said we tried to  
teach too many subjects. We have  
tried to curtail the subjects as much  
as possible, but you know what  
schoolmasters are. They hold strong-  
ly to their ideas, and we will see  
what can be done. I think the real  
trouble is the paucity of English  
masters, and that again is regulated  
by expense. What we really want is  
more English masters, and the teach-  
ing then in the lower schools would  
be much more efficient than it is.  
That is a subject which my private  
secretary, Mr. Ponsonby Fane, who  
is giving his services at Queen's Col-  
lege, has brought to my notice more  
than once. Perhaps, when better  
days come after the war, we will  
be able to arrange for a larger English  
staff. The hon. member who repre-  
sents the Justices of the Peace sug-  
gested that money might be spent  
on improving the Pokfulam and Vic-  
toria roads. I drive in a motor-car  
a great deal, and I do not think those  
roads are really dangerous at present.  
Our object is first of all to get the  
roads through and then "tidy" them.  
I think that he will agree that  
it is wiser to spend all the money  
we can in opening up roads from  
point to point and then to im-  
prove them. It is suggested that  
seats should be provided in the play-  
ground at Kowloon. That will be  
done. We have some there already.  
Do I understand the hon. member  
to mean that he would like a perma-  
nent building in the playground?

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK:—Yes, Sir, near  
the Hungshing Station.

His EXCELLENCY:—I think that  
might be within our compass next  
year. It has also been remarked  
that poor Chinese are in the habit  
of raking over the dustbins. That  
point will be brought to the notice  
of the Head of the Sanitary Depart-  
ment. Although not strictly con-  
nected with the estimates, I, as one  
personally interested, in the  
Y.M.C.A., was glad to hear the hon.  
member say he would be prepared  
to support a recommendation to the  
Secretary of State for the granting  
of a site on easy terms in a central  
situation. The hon. member who  
was nominated by the Chamber of  
Commerce told me some time ago  
that he would like to put on paper  
his views on the subject, and I  
should be very glad to receive them  
as soon as he has had time to pre-  
pare them, and to give the suggestion  
what support I can. In connection  
with the War Loan, it was suggested  
that we should invest our sinking  
fund in six per cent. exchequer  
bonds. I do not know if that ap-  
peals to the financial mind of the  
Colonial Treasurer, but we will con-  
sider the point. There is just one  
more thing I would like to add. The  
hon. member who represents the  
Justices of the Peace foreshadowed  
a resolution in this Council connected  
with the Civil Hospital. Well, now  
I would inform both him and other  
unofficial members, before they em-  
bark on such a resolution, that it  
would be well for them to enquire  
as to the conditions down at the  
hospital, not only from the staff but  
from outsiders who are working in  
the establishment. There are two  
Dr. Aubrey and Professor Digby, who  
have no connection with the Govern-  
ment, whatsoever. There are also  
two in the Colony who have a  
wide experience of hospital adminis-  
tration and nursing in other Colonies.  
These ladies can throw light on  
methods adopted in other places,  
and that is always useful. I think  
that hon. members, if they follow my  
suggestion, will gain a good deal of

information. I beg to thank hon.  
members for the sympathetic way  
in which they have dealt with the  
estimates, and the facilities they  
have given for passing them smoothly  
and quickly.

### A CAPTAIN OF PATROL.

#### SMALL TALK OF THE GREAT BLOCKADE.

(BY JAMES MILNE.)

"Why," said he, laughing the hearty  
laugh of the sailor-man, "there's been  
no fun like it since Noah sailed the Ark  
in the Deluge." Men, who go down to  
the sea in ships, doing war business in  
its great waters, know their Bibles, and  
his appeal to it was simple, natural.  
He was speaking of the pursuit and  
capture of German submarines, of the  
gathering in or destruction of German  
mines, in fine of the experiences of a  
British captain of patrol during the past  
two years. "Yes," he added quietly,  
as if to himself, "it's a great game, and  
we're all fit and happy."

"This was at the end of our talk, when  
the little, white-haired terrier which had  
made us acquainted was getting impatient  
to be on the move. "You don't mind  
him, I see, and that's friendly," he had  
said at the beginning, when Sam invaded  
me. "He's only six months old, and in  
that time he's been overboard and had  
to swim for his life three times in the  
North Sea. I'm skipper of a patrol ship  
up there, and this is my first bit of leave  
for 18 months. Wouldn't have got it,  
perhaps, but the old lady scraped her  
nose on something hard the other night,  
perhaps a wreck, and had to lay up, which  
let me away."

A SON OF THE SEA.  
He was young, this Captain of Patrol,  
perhaps 30, but there was ripeness in  
his slow way of talking, reflection in his  
grey eyes. His square chin had a  
woman's dimple, his cheeks the fresh  
colour of the open heavens, and a smile  
danced continually between red lips,  
which, it just passed through my mind,  
might be regular.

A good fellow,  
eminently capable, frank and breezy of  
talk—he was all that, and we got on well.  
May the golden stripes on the arms of  
his blue jacket soon be more and wider,  
for he and a fleetful like him are behind  
that "Evolution" in the North Sea of  
which we love to hear.

"Only two things ever trouble us,"  
he said as he threw Sam a gentle  
sneak, "the want of sleep, when  
we're mine-sweeping, and the North Sea  
cold when it is cold. I have, at a spell,  
been six days and nights on the bridge,  
for if you are sweeping an unhealthy  
stretch of sea after a storm has washed  
hundreds of German mines about, you  
don't want to delegate the navigation to  
anybody else. They are pretty hard to  
see, those mine mines, with a trifle of  
swell on, and every pair of eyes is  
needed for the job. I remember, last  
winter, being where the Hampshire went  
down with Kitchener, and having a  
couple of drifting mines scrape the side  
of my boat. It's an uneasy feeling,  
because the difference between kingdom  
come and the rest of your cruise lies  
just in this—Will you or will you not  
strike one of the horns of a mine? We  
didn't then, and I signalled back to other  
vessels the position of those mines, and  
they exploded them with nice fire."

It didn't do, he remarked gravely,  
to be over near a German mine which  
was being shot at like that. When it  
exploded it made a deuce of a row, a  
waterpout in the air, and it brought up  
a whole lot of dead fish, which the patrol  
men often collected, a welcome addition  
to their sea ration. Oddly, what most  
struck a friend of my Captain of Patrol,  
during the Battle of Jutland, was the  
enormous mass of fish made by  
German shells falling in the sea. That  
officer was in an observation post all  
through the fight, and the little thing  
that struck him was the big things  
that were the affair of the fish. Perhaps that  
incident is characteristic of life and  
death; a mind is numbed by great events,  
is unable to grasp them, and fastens with  
relief on the trifles.

NEWS BY THE WINDS.  
"I suppose," I said, "you hear what's  
going on up and down the North Sea;  
the news will come to you, as news is  
said to travel in the desert?" He looked  
at me and nodded, with that air of  
acceptance of the unknown which belongs  
to good sailors. "It may sound queer,"  
he talked, "but we do seem to know,  
quite apart from wireless, the papers,  
and anything you can name, what's going  
on. One might say it that the sea has  
a language of its own, and that the many  
units of our fleet, from the Super-Dread-  
noughts to the trawler-patrol boats, are  
whispering to each other all the time."  
Possibly," he added, "this sea-gossip" is  
often wrong, too vague and will-of-the-  
wispian to be real news, but it gives you  
the hang of things. No doubt the basis  
of it is the constant meetings of different  
men and different crews, who pass along  
their own duties until you have a great  
mass of talk and rumour, which never  
gets into the papers."

He said that with quiet deliberation  
as if to remind me, "Ha, ha, we know  
a few things, we do." We all love to  
make an effort, human nature being  
spangled with vanity even in the best of  
us. "It may be a mere yarn," he went  
on, "still, every man about in blue has  
heard that our Grand Fleet sighted the  
German High Sea Fleet out just before  
war was declared between England and  
Germany; that, counting on our not  
coming in, it was waiting to pounce down  
upon the French Channel ports; that our  
Fleet could have blown it to bits in an  
hour and that the men were burning to  
do so. Dramatic? Certainly. A fact?  
I was not there and cannot tell you, but  
ask the cabin-boy in my patrol boat and  
he'll guarantee it's history."

We agreed that sea-gossip, like a  
love-letter, may gain in interest by having  
the spice of uncertainty. "And sailors,"  
he said, showing his knowledge of them,  
"love to talk, and in particular they  
love to ornament a tale. Humour, the  
laugh, soft or loud, over something nice  
or something else not so nice, that all  
helps to make the sailor's world go  
round. It is the same old sailor's  
world even in war time, emphasised by  
the fact that we have on patrol duty the  
most wonderful lot of men you ever saw,  
all sorts and beliefs, men, all heroes, or  
with the stuff of heroes in them. But  
they don't strike any heroic attitudes  
and they take enemy submarines, enemy  
mines, and the examination of neutral  
ships, as being just 'in the day's work.'"  
That was his appreciation of the patrol  
men, and he spoke it unconsciously,  
which added to its plain sincerity.

He made an apt comparison of the  
half-mine-sweeper, with the clearing up  
of the streets of a great city in the  
morning before that city is awake. Your  
mine-sweeper is at work with the dawn  
on his special section of the ocean  
channel along which, by and by, the  
ships that carry the commerce of the  
world will pass. Dangerous work, of  
course, because death may come in a  
flash, but romantic work also, when  
reflected in the ships, bound near and  
far, that it lets go free. There has been  
nothing like it since Elizabeth's spacious  
age when the little English ships were  
forth to help the bigger English ships,  
and we are all proud of our Captains of  
Patrol.

EXCHANGE OF CIVILIANS.  
ENEMY BID FOR INTERMED MEN  
THROUGHOUT THE EMPIRE.

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 17.  
A telegram from Berlin quotes an  
article in the "Norddeutsche Allgemeine  
Zeitung" which states that the British  
Government last June made a proposal  
to the German Government for the re-  
lease of British civilians interned at  
Ruhleben against a similar number of  
interned German civilians in England.

After a thorough investigation, the  
German Government replied that it  
would not oppose the measure in itself,  
but that its execution should not be  
made dependent upon the release of a  
corresponding number of interned Ger-  
mans in England, as such an exchange,  
owing to the question of selection, would  
impose insuperable difficulties.  
The execution of the suggestion should  
rather be carried out by both sides re-  
leasing or allowing the departure of all  
those interned.

The British Government rejected the  
German proposal and made a new pro-  
posal that both sides should liberate all  
male civilian prisoners over the age of  
45. The German Government, in reply,  
again suggested the release and sending  
home of all interned civilians on both  
sides on condition that these persons on  
their return should not be incorporated  
in the fighting forces.

In the event of the British Govern-  
ment not coming to an agreement on  
this basis, the German Government de-  
clared that it was ready in principle to  
adopt the British proposal for the re-  
lease of all interned German civilians in  
the British Empire, including the  
Colonies and possessions, and of all  
British civilians interned in Germany  
over 45. The reply of the British  
Government has not yet been received.

PREMIER AND DEMOBILISATION.  
GRADUAL PROCESS WITH FULL  
PAY FURLOUGH.

THE Premier's reply to the Triple  
Labour Alliance representatives at the  
recent interview after war problems  
has been issued in the form of a con-  
siderable number of official trans-  
cripts in the shape of 44 official trans-  
cripts of the proceedings.

With regard to demobilisation, Mr.  
Asquith said that whenever it takes place  
and under whatever conditions it takes  
place, it must, for military reasons, be a  
gradual process. Some period of fur-  
lough on full pay must inevitably be  
granted.

Mr. Asquith trusted that, in a very  
short space of time, the Demobilisation  
Committee will be able to formulate  
conclusions to enable the Government  
to set up in advance machinery which  
could be brought into active co-operation  
the moment war came to an end and  
peace was declared.

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Under Weight, a condition  
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Timekeepers:—Sergeant PITT and Mr. A. B. ALLAN.

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